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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
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10/764,679

01/26/2004

Eric Watson

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07/18/2006

MICROSOFT CORPORATION

ATTN: PATENT GROUP DOCKETING DEPARTMENT

ONE MICROSOFT WAY

REDMOND, WA 98052-6399

EXAMINER

KINDRED, ALFORD W

ART UNIT

PAPER NUMBER

2163

DATE MAILED: 07/18/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

## Office Action Summary

Application No.

10/764,679

Applicant(s)

WATSON ET AL.

Examiner

Alford W. Kindred

Art Unit

2163

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

### Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

### Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 26 January 2004.
- 2a) ☐ This action is FINAL. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

### Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-41 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-41 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

### Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

### Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some \* c) ☐ None of:
- ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
  - ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.
  - ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

\* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

### Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
- Paper No(s)/Mail Date 4/5/04 4/5/05

- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
- Paper No(s)/Mail Date. \_\_\_\_\_
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

### DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is responsive to communications: Application filed on 01/26/04.

#### ***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

3. Claims 1-41 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Bailey et al., US# 2005/0004889.

As per claim 1, Bailey et al. teaches “a query term recognizer that examines the query terms and identifies and groups terms that are intended as a phrase” (see paragraph [0128] and [0167]) “a query type recognizer that examines the query terms and categorizes the query as one of a plurality of query types” (see paragraph [0127] and [0131]) “a query intent personalizer that gathers information about the user entering the query and provides this information to the query term recognizer and query type recognizer” (see paragraph [0119] and [0146]) “a query modifier that modifies the user entered query based on the term grouping determined by the query term recognizer and the query type determined by the query type recognizer” (see paragraph [0037] and [0046]) “a query federation module that selects data sources from the plurality of data

sources and executes the modified query on the selected data sources” (see paragraph [0036], [0046] and [0167]).

As per claim 2, Bailey et al. teaches “a spell checker that recognizes misspelled query terms and replaces the misspelled query terms with correctly spelled terms and wherein the query term recognizer and query type recognizer examine the correctly spelled terms” (see paragraph [0036] and [0046]).

As per claim 3, Bailey et al. teaches “wherein the spell checker arguments the query with correctly spelled terms and wherein the query term recognizer and query type recognizer examine the augmented query” (see paragraph [0046] and [0166]).

As per claims 4-5, Bailey et al. teaches “a query list that maps possible query terms to other terms with which they are often grouped and wherein the query term recognizer refers to the query term list to identify and group terms as phrases” (see paragraph [0046] and [0127]).

As per claim 6, Bailey et al. teaches “a local pattern recognizer that identifies query terms that identify the query as a local query seeking information related to a specific geographic region from which the query originated” (see paragraph [0166] and [0167]).

As per claim 7, Bailey et al. teaches “the query type recognizer augments the query with information about the specific geographic region when a local query is identified” (see paragraph [0168]).

As per claim 8, Bailey et al. teaches “query federation module selects a phone directory data source upon which to execute the local query” (see paragraph [0043]

whereas Bailey's pull down menu has the capacity to connect to a phone directory data as illustrated in applicant's claim language).

As per claim 9, Bailey et al. teaches "a context builder that retrieves information about the user entering the query" (see paragraph [0067] and [0146]).

As per claim 10, Bailey et al. teaches "web sites recently accessed by the user" (see paragraph [0067] and [0092]).

As per claim 11, this claim is rejection on grounds corresponding to the arguments given above for rejected claim 8 and is similarly rejected.

As per claims 12-13, Bailey et al. teaches "each federation engine has an associated cache that saves results to previous queries that were returned to the federation engine from its data source" (see paragraph [0067] and [0118]).

As per claim 14, Bailey et al. teaches "the query list is based on user selected results to previous queries containing query terms that were grouped as a phrase in the selected results" (see paragraph [0067] and [0092]).

As per claim 15, Bailey et al. teaches "query term list maps terms to query categories based on user selected results to previous queries that included the query terms" (see paragraph [0067] and [0113]).

As per claims 16-26, these claims are rejected on grounds corresponding to the arguments given above for rejected claims 1-13 and are similarly rejected.

As per claims 27-41, these claims are rejected on grounds corresponding to the arguments given above for rejected claims 1-13 and are similarly rejected.

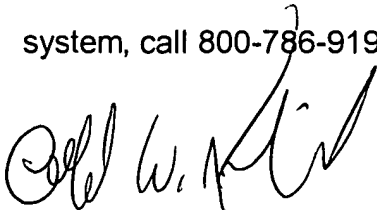
***Conclusion***

4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. US# 2006/0075120.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Alford W. Kindred whose telephone number is 571-272-4037. The examiner can normally be reached on Mon-Fri 9:00 am- 5:00 pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Don Wong can be reached on (571) 272-1834. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Alford W. Kindred  
Patent Examiner  
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